

Message Text

PAGE 01 MASERU 00248 01 OF 02 101641Z

21

ACTION OES-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-02 AGR-05 COME-00

TRSE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 DODE-00 /057 W

----- 073647

P R 101244Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MASERU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5594

INFO AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 MASERU 0248

E.O. 11652; GDS

TAGS: SPOP

SUBJECT: IMPLICATIONS OF WORLDWIDE POPULATION GROWTH FOR UNITED
STATES SECURITY AND OVERSEAS INTERESTS

REF: 75 STATE 301427, 75 STATE 297241

1. THIS RESPONSE TO REFTEL REVIEWS POPULATION DEVELOPMENTS IN
LESOTHO AND SWAZILAND. WHERE CIRCUMSTANCES ARE SIMILAR,
INFORMATION IS PROVIDED WITHOUT REFERENCE TO PARTICULAR COUNTRIES.
THOSE ASPECTS OF THE POPULATION SITUATION WHICH ARE COUNTRY-SPECIFIC,
ARE TREATED AS SUCH. RESPONSE IS KEYED TO SPECIFIC POINTS RAISED
REFTEL PARA 4 A-G.

2. A. IN SWAZILAND, REPUTED TO HAVE ONE OF THE HIGHEST BIRTH RATES
IN THE WORLD, THE GOVERNMENT HAS PLACED ITSELF FIRMLY ON RECORD
AS SUPPORTING FAMILY PLANNING (FP) PRACTICES. ONE OF THE THREE
BROAD POLICY OBJECTIVES OF THE 1973-77 NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN
IS QUOTE TO CREATE A SITUATION WITHIN WHICH A SUBSTANTIAL MODERATION
IN THE RATE OF POPULATION GROWTH CAN BE ACHIEVED WITHIN A REASONABLE
PERIOD END QUOTE. THE PLAN STATES THAT THE GOS WILL RELY ON HEALTH
EDUCATION AND EXPANDED FP SERVICES TO IMPLEMENT THIS POLICY.
SEVERAL MONTHS AGO SWAZILAND'S KING SOBHUZA PUBLICLY RE-AFFIRMED
THE GOVERNMENT'S FP POLICY.
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MASERU 00248 01 OF 02 101641Z

IN RECENT MONTHS THE GOVERNMENT OF LESOTHO, HERETOFORE
RELUCTANT TO TAKE A POSITION ON FP, HAS SHOWN INCREASING INTEREST
IN PROVISION OF SUCH SERVICES. PRIVATE SECTOR FP ACTIVITIES, SUCH
AS THOSE OF THE LESOTHO FAMILY PLANNING ASSN, HAVE BEEN PERMITTED

BY THE GOL, AND FP SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE THROUGH MISSION FACILITIES, RED CROSS CLINICS AND NOW AT GOVERNMENT FACILITIES. THE GOL HAS ALSO COOPERATED WITH AID IN AN MCH/FP PROJECT BEGUN IN 1972. THERE IS INCREASING OFFICIAL RECOGNITION THAT ALTHOUGH THE COUNTRY'S POPULATION GROWTH RATE IS CONSERVATIVELY ESTIMATED TO BE RELATIVELY LOW (1.8 PERCENT BY RECENT UN ESTIMATES, COMPARED TO ABOUT 3 PERCENT FOR SWAZILAND), THE CURRENT POPULATION IS MAKING EXTREME DEMANDS ON A VERY NARROW RESOURCE BASE. ON AT LEAST TWO OCCASIONS THE PRIME MINISTER HAS PUBLICLY SPOKEN FAVORABLY ABOUT FAMILY PLANNING CONCEPTS AND PRACTICES, AND THE DRAFT SECOND FIVE YEAR PLAN PROVIDES OFFICIAL SANCTION FOR EXPANSION OF FP ACTIVITIES.

PERHAPS THE PRINCIPAL FACTOR HINDERING WIDER ADOPTION OF FP PRACTICES IS PREVAILING TRADITIONAL ATTITUDES TOWARD SEX ROLES AND FAMILY SIZE. SWAZILAND IS A POLYGAMOUS SOCIETY WHERE BIRTH IS CONSIDERED AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT OF THE MARITAL UNION. PRE-MARITAL RELATIONSHIPS ARE ALSO COMMONPLACE IN BOTH COUNTRIES AND LARGE FAMILIES ARE FAVORED. BOTH CULTURES ADVOCATE SOME FORM OF CHILD SPACING BASED ON THE PRACTICE OF ABSTINENCE FOR VARYING PERIODS FOLLOWING CHILDBIRTH.

OTHER CULTURAL FACTORS ALSO WORK AGAINST ADOPTION OF FP PRACTICES. RESISTANCE ON THE PART OF THE MAN, WHO DESIRES CHILDREN FOR BOTH SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC REASONS, HINDERS ACCEPTANCE ON THE PART OF WOMEN. FOR EXAMPLE, THE SWAZI WOMAN MARRIED OR UNMARRIED, IN A MONOGAMOUS OR POLYGAMOUS HOUSEHOLD, IS PRIMARILY AND OFTEN EXCLUSIVELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CARE, UPBRINGING AND EDUCATION OF THE CHILDREN; SHE MUST BEAR A CHILD OR CHILDREN IN ORDER TO GAIN THE FAVOR OF THE MAN AND SOCIETY. A WOMAN ALSO DEFERS TO THE MAN'S DICTATE IN SUCH IMPORTANT DECISIONS, SINCE THE MAN IS TRADITIONALLY THE ULTIMATE DECISION-MAKER. FEAR MAY ALSO PLAY A ROLE IN THE WOMAN'S RELUCTANCE TO ACCEPT CONTRACEPTIVES AGAINST THE WISHES OF HER HUSBAND, AND THE THREAT OF VIOLENCE AND THE BIAS IN FAVOR OF THE MAN IN SWAZI TRIBAL LAW WOULD APPEAR TO SUPPORT THE BASIS OF SUCH FEAR. ATTITUDES DESCRIBED ARE BASED
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MASERU 00248 01 OF 02 101641Z

ONLY ON APPEARANCES, AS THERE HAVE BEEN NO STUDIES ON KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES, AND PRACTICE OF FAMILY PLANNING IN SWAZILAND, AS NONE HAS BEEN PERMITTED. RESEARCH OF THIS KIND IS CONTEMPLATED IN LESOTHO IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE AID MCH/FP PROJECT.

ANOTHER OBSTACLE TO MORE EFFECTIVE FP PRACTICE IN LESOTHO AND SWAZILAND IS THE UNEVEN DISTRIBUTION OF NECESSARY INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES. THE LOCATION OF FACILITIES TENDS TO FAVOR URBAN RESIDENTS. IN SWAZILAND A WELL-DEVELOPED NETWORK OF RURAL CLINICS EXISTS WHERE, AT LEAST IN PRINCIPLE, FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE. IN FACT, HOWEVER, RELIABLE FP SERVICES TEND TO BE AVAILABLE ONLY AT URBAN HEALTH CENTERS OR HOSPITALS. LOGISTICAL SUPPORT SYSTEMS ARE INADEQUATE FOR OUTLYING AREAS. IN RUGGED LESOTHO, INFRASTRUCTURAL AND LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS ARE EXACERBATED.

A THIRD FACTOR WHICH HAS RESTRAINED ADOPTION OF FP PRACTICES IS THE DEARTH OF ADEQUATE PROMOTIVE EDUCATION. BOTH LESOTHO AND SWAZILAND NOW PLAN TO FOLLOW NEIGHBORING BOTSWANA'S LEAD IN DEVELOPING CADRES OF BASIC MEDICAL AUXILIARIES CAPABLE OR PROMOTING FP. NEITHER OF THE COUNTRIES HAS SANCTIONED SEX EDUCATION IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS. IN SUMMARY, THE RELATIVELY LIMITED OUTREACH OF THE GOVERNMENT IS AS SIGNIFICANT AS CULTURAL BIAS IN THE TRADITIONAL SECTOR IN IMPEDING MORE RAPID ADOPTION OF FP PRACTICES.

2. B. FIRM CONCLUSIONS ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF FP ACTIVITIES IN LESOTHO AND SWAZILAND ARE DIFFICULT TO SUPPORT DEARTH DEVELOPED INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND THE CONSEQUENT DEARTH OF RELIABLE DATA. MOREOVER, FP ACTIVITIES HAVE GENERALLY BEEN TIED TO AND FUNDED WITH MCH PROGRAMS, AND IT IS RATHER DIFFICULT AT BOTH THE PHILOSOPHICAL AND ANALYTIC LEVEL TO ATTEMPT TO ASSESS THE TWO SEPARATELY. IN ADDITION, ALL SIGNIFICANT FP ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN UNDERTAKEN RELATIVELY RECENTLY (IN THE LAST THREE OR FOUR YEARS) AND IT IS PREMATURE TO SEEK EVIDENCE OF WIDESPREAD CHANGE IN ATTITUDE OR PRACTICE. THE NOTABLE IMPACT OF FP PROJECTS AND RELATED DONOR SUPPORT HAS BEEN TO SUPPORT EFFORTS TO TRANSLATE PUBLIC POLICY INTO PROJECT FORM. IN LESOTHO CONSIDERABLE OBJECTACENT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN TERMS OF INCREASING OFFICIAL RECEPTIVITY TO THE CASE FOR FP. THIS GROWING RECEPTIVITY ECHOES CHANGES IN SISTER STATES BOTSWANA AN SWAZILAND AND IS PROBABLY THE MOST SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT IN ALL THREE COUNTRIES IN THE FP AREA.

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 MASERU 00248 01 OF 02 101641Z

ON THE OTHER HAND, LARGE NUMBERS OF POTENTIAL RECIPIENTS OF FP SERVICES HAVE NOT YET BEEN REACHED AND FOLLOW-UP HAS BEEN PROBLEMATIC; EMPHASIS TENDS TO FALL ON INITIAL CONTACT WITH THE TARGET POPULACE RATHER THAN LONG TERM MOTIVATION AND EDUCATION. A 1973 SURVEY IN BOTSWANA, WHICH IS SOMEWHAT MORE ACTIVE IN FP PROMOTION THAN LESOTHO AND SWAZILAND, SUGGESTS THE STATE OF THE ARTS. THE STUDY CONCLUDED THAT ONLY 10 PERCENT OF THE ELIGIBLE POPULATION OF THE RURAL AREAS SURVEYED HAD EVER BEEN REACHED BY FP SERVICES, WHILE LESS THAN 6 PERCENT OF THE ELIGIBLE POPULATION COUNTRYWIDE WAS ESTIMATED TO HAVE BEEN REACHED. FORTY-FIVE PERCENT OF ACCEPTORS WERE LOST TO FOLLOW UP. IT MUST BE NOTED, TOO, THAT WHEN FP SERVICES ARE MADE AVAILABLE AT HEALTH CENTERS AND CLIMICS ONLY THOSE WHO HAVE ACCESS TO AND USE MODERN HEALTH SERVICES CAN BE REACHED. IN SWAZILAND, THIS IS ESTIMATED AT LESS THAN HALF THE WOMEN OF CHILD-BEARING AGE, A FIGURE WHICH IS PROBABLY ROUGHLY APPLICABLE TO LESOTHO AS WELL. CONSIDERABLE WORK REMAINS IN THE AREAS OF MCH/FP PROMOTION AND EDUCATION, IN EXTENDING OUTREACH CAPACITY AND RELATED MNAGEMENT AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS, AND IN SUPPLEMENTAL FP TRAINING FOR HEALTH PERSONNEL, BEFORE INVESTMENTS IN FP ACTIVITIES IN LESOTHO AND SWAZILAND CAN BE FAIRLY EVALUATED. THESE ARE AREAS IN WHICH AID AND OTHER DONROS CAN MAKE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS. AID PROVIDES FP-RELATED ASSISTANCE IN BOTH COUNTRIES. IN LESOTHO,

THIS SUPPORT HAS BEEN COUPLED WITH BROADER PROJECT ASSISTANCE IN THE MCH AREA. SHORT-TERM MCH/FP TRAINING IN THE U.S. HAS ALSO BEEN FUNDED BY AID FOR A TOTAL OF 26 NURSES TO DATE FROM BOTH

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MASERU 00248 02 OF 02 110804Z

21

ACTION OES-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-02 AGR-05 COME-00

TRSE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 DODE-00 /057 W

----- 085172

P R 101331Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MASERU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5595

INFO AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 MASERU 0248

COUNTRIES. IN SWAZILAND, AID ACTIVITIES OTHER THAN TRAINING HAVE BEEN LIMITED TO PROVISION OF CONTRACEPTIVE SUPPLIES. IN LESOTHO AND SAWZILAND HEALTH PROJECTS WITH IMPORTANT FP ASPECTS ARE CURRENTLY IN THE DESIGN PHASE. BOTH PROPOSED PROJECTS EMPHASIZE THE DEVELOPMENT OF PROFESSIONAL AND AUXILIARY HEALTH MANPOWER AND THE STRENGTHENING OF CENTRAL PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT CAPABILITIES OF THE RESPECTIVE HEALTH MINISTRIES IN ORDER TO RATIONALLY DEVELOP THE EXTENSION OF HEALTH AND FP SERVICES TO RURAL AREAS AND PROVIDE NECESSARY SUPPORTIVE SERVICES. IN ADDITION TO AID ASSISTANCE, THE U.S. EMBASSY ADMINISTERS SPA FUNDS (ABOUT \$25,000 PER ANNUM PER COUNTRY) IN SUPPORT OF MANDATED ACTIVITIES.

LESOTHO AND SWAZILAND ARE NOT, OF COURSE, AMONG THE BIG 13 NATIONS LISTED REF B WHICH ARE TO RECEIVE PARTICULAR ATTENTION. NOR DO THEY RANK HIGHLY ON LENGTHIER PRIORITY LISTS FORMULATED BY AID FOR FP RESOURCE ALLOCATION PURPOSES. AN UNFORTUNATE ASPECT OF THESE LISTINGS IS THAT THEY TEND TO FOCUS ON LARGE COUNTRIES WITH POPULATIONS WHICH ARE LARGE IN ABSOLUTE TERMS. IT IS URGED THAT SUCH RANKING EXERCISES BE RE-EXAMINED TO GIVE CONSIDERATION TO SUCH SIGNIFICANT FACTORS AS POPULATION VIS A VIS RESOURCE BASE, HOST GOVERNMENT FP POLICY, IMPLICATIONS OF POPULATION LEVELS AND GROWTH RATES FOR STABILITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND CULTURAL RECEPTIVITY. LESOTHO AND SWAZILAND ARE CHARACTERIZED BY LARGE SUBSISTENCE SECTORS AND RELATIVELY SMALL INDUSTRIAL OR COMMERCIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MASERU 00248 02 OF 02 110804Z

BASES. LESOTHO IS CURRENTLY LISTED AS ONE OF THE UN'S SIX LEAST DEVELOPED NATIONS. THE IMPACT OF POPULATION GROWTH ON NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT HAD BEEN MOST SEVERE IN LESOTHO. LESS THAN 15 PERCENT OF LESOTHO'S LAND IS ARABLE AND MUCH OF THAT IS ONLY marginally productive. THE ADDITIONAL 60 PERCENT OF THE LAND WHICH IS SUITABLE FOR GRAZING IS MOSTLY LOCATED IN HIGHER MOUNTAINS AND IS INACCESSIBLE IN WINTER. WITH A POPULATION OF ABOUT 1.2 MILLION THAT MAY BE GROWING AT A RATE IN EXCESS OF 2 PERCENT A YEAR, THERE IS NOW LESS THAN AN ACRE OF ARABLE LAND PER PERSON, AND AVERAGE LANDHOLDINGS HAVE DECREASED FROM 6.2 ACRES IN 1950 TO 4.9 ACRES IN 1970. DURING THIS SAME PERIOD THE PRODUCTION OF CORN, THE DIETARY STAPLE DROPPED FROM 2,345,000 BAGS TO 733,000 BAGS AND GRAINS AS A TOTAL FROM 3,600,000 TO 2,100,000. BETWEEN 1950 AND 1970 THE PERCENTAGE OF LANDLESS RURAL HOUSEHOLDS GREW FROM FOUR TO THIRTEEN. THE EFFECT OF POPULATION GROWTH ADDED TO LAND EROSION AND OVER-UTILIZATION IS THAT LESS LAND PRODUCES LESS FOR MORE PEOPLE. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES THE INCREASE IN CEREAL IMPORTS FROM 12,000 TONS TO 45,000 TONS BETWEEN 1950 AND 1970 AND THE FACT THAT LESOTHO IS THE WORLD'S LARGEST PER CAPITA RECIPIENT OF WORLD FOOD PROGRAM AND PL 480 FOOD ARE NOT SURPRISING. LESOTHO'S EXPORT TRADE IS MINIMAL; WITH ITS LARGELY SUBSISTENCE ECONOMY AND INCREASING FOOD (AND OTHER) IMPORTS THE COUNTRY IS HIGHLY RELIANT ON THE REPATRIATED EARNINGS OF MIGRATORY BASOTHO LABOR EMPLOYED IN SOUTH AFRICAN MINES TO KEEP THE ECONOMY AFLOAT. ABOUT 60 PERCENT OF LESOTHO'S MALE WORK FORCE AND 10 PERCENT OF ITS FEMALE WORK FORCE ARE IN SOUTH AFRICA AT ANY GIVEN TIME. THIS CONSTITUTES A TOTAL OF ABOUT 225,000 PEOPLE, AS COMPARED WITH TOTAL WAGE EMPLOYMENT IN LESOTHO OF 20,000. INCOME GENERATED BY MIGRATORY LABOR IS CRUCIAL TO LESOTHO AND A RECENT STUDY CONCLUDED THAT TOTAL REPATRIATION OF MIGRATORY WORKS WOULD BE DISASTROUS.

IN SWAZILAND, AS IN LESOTHO, THE VAST MAJORITY OF THE POPULACE RESIDES IN THE SUBSISTENCE SECTOR. ALTHOUGH GDP HAS RISEN AT ALMOST 10 PERCENT PER ANNUM IN THE 1970'S, THE TRADITIONAL SECTOR HAS BEEN VIRTUALLY STAGNANT, WITH A GROWTH IN OUTPUT ONLY marginally GREATER THAN THE COUNTRY'S EXTREMELY HIGH RATE OF POPULATION INCREASE

ALTHOUGH PUBLIC REVENUES HAVE BEEN AMPLE DUE TO GOVERNMENT INCOME FROM LARGE COMMERCIAL VENTURES IN SUGAR, FORESTRY AND MINING, REAL INCOME IN THE RURAL AREAS HAS NOT RISEN APPRECIABLY IN RECENT
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MASERU 00248 02 OF 02 110804Z

YEARS. SWAZILAND HAS NOT SUFFERED THE RAVAGED ENVIRONMENT OF LESOTHO. ON THE OTHER HAND, LAND AREA IS LIMITED AND THE IMPACT OF POPULATION PRESSURES AND HEAVY DEMANDS ON THE LAND ARE NOW UNMISTAKABLE. FOOD PRODUCTION IS NOT ADEQUATE TO MEET DOMESTIC DEMAND, ALTHOUGH IMPORTED FOODSTUFFS ARE CONSUMED LARGELY BY THE SMALL MODERN SECTOR.

IN BOTH COUNTRIES, THE DEMANDS PLACED ON THE SERVICE INFRA-STRUCTURE, THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM AND URBAN FACILITIES ARE EXTREME,

MOST OF THE SUBSISTENCE POPULACE, WHERE THE ABSOLUTE IMPACT OF INCREASING NUMBERS IS GREATEST, LIVES WITH ONLY THE BAREST MINIMUM OF SERVICES. MUCH OF LESOTHO IS INACCESSIBLE EXCEPT ON FOOT OR BY TEDIOUS OVERLAND TRAVEL. RURAL AREAS TYPICALLY ARE COMPLETELY LACKING IN ELECTRICAL POWER AND SANITARY FACILITIES. LESOTHO AND SWAZILAND HAVE SHOWN A MARKED EXPANSION IN EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES AT ALL LEVELS IN THE LAST DECADE. NEVERTHELESS, THE SYSTEM IS INADEQUATE IN ITS ABILITY TO HANDLE SHEER DEMAND. IN SWAZILAND, COMPETITION FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES IS EXTREMELY KEEN. THE COUNTRY'S VOCATIONAL COLLEGE THIS YEAR ADMITTED 80 NEW STUDENTS OUT OF SOME 500 APPLICANTS. ALTHOUGH NEITHER OF THE COUNTRIES IS HIGHLY URBANIZED, THE CAPITALS AND MAJOR TOWNS ALL HAVE LARGE "SLUM" AREAS WHERE SHELTER, SERVICES AND SECURITY ARE HOPELESSLY INADEQUATE.

F. AS INDICATED ABOVE, SWAZILAND SHOWS MOUNTING EVIDENCE OF THE PRESS OF A RAPIDLY GROWING POPULATION. ON THE OTHER HAND, WITH ITS PROMISING AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY RESOURCES AND GROWING COMMERCIAL SECTOR, IT DOES NOT FACE THE DIRE AND IMMEDIATE POLITICAL PROSPECTS OF OVER POPULATION THAT LESOTHO DOES.

IN LESOTHO, THE CONSEQUENCES OF SUDDENLY HAVING TO ABSORB AND PROVIDE FOR THE 35-40 PERCENT OF ITS TOTAL LABOR FORCE WHICH NOW RESIDES IN SOUTH AFRICA WOULD SURELY BE DISASTROUS. THE VAST MAJORITY OF THESE WORKERS ARE NOW EMPLOYED IN SOUTH AFRICA ON TEMPORARY CONTRACTS AS MINE, FARM AND DOMESTIC LABOR. RECENT UNREST IN THE MINES WHICH CAUSED THE TEMPORARY RETURN OF OVER 14,000 MINERS, COUPLED WITH SOUTH AFRICA'S ANNOUNCED INTENTION TO MECHANIZE THE MINING INDUSTRY, HAS CAUSED LESOTHO TO BEGIN PLANNING A NUMBER OF LABOR INTENSIVE ACTIVITIES TO CREATE MORE LOCAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND PROVIDE POSSIBILITIES FOR ABSORBING A SUDDEN RETURN OF WORKERS FROM SOUTH AFRICA. CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 MASERU 00248 02 OF 02 110804Z

ADDITIONALLY, THE LONGER TERM IMPLICATIONS OF THE MIGRATORY LABOR PROBLEM ARE A FACTOR IN THE MARKEDLY INCREASED ATTENTION BEING GIVEN TO POPULATION MATTERS.

G. IN BOTH LESOTHO AND SWAZILAND, BILATERAL DONORS, MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATIONS, CHURCH MISSIONS AND OTHER PRIVATE SECTOR DONORS PROVIDE MOST (75 PERCENT OR MORE) OF THE HEALTH SECTOR DEVELOPMENT BUDGET. THE PLETHORA OF INTEREST ON THE PART OF MAJOR AND LESSER DONORS PRESENTS CHALLENGES FOR COORDINATION, NOT TO MENTION COOPERATION. NEVERTHELESS, THE GOVERNMENTS OF LESOTHO AND SWAZILAND HAVE NOT SHOWN STRONG INCLINATIONS FOR FORMAL COORDINATING MECHANISMS. MOST OF THE INTERCHANGE THAT DOES OCCUR IS INITIATED AMONG THE DONORS THEMSELVES AND ON AN AD HOC BASIS.

SEVERAL POSSIBLE AVENUES FOR IMPROVEMENT OF THIS MODUS OPERANDI ARE BEING TRIED LOCALLY AND OTHERS ARE WORTH CONSIDERING. IN SWAZILAND, A PROJECT TO STRENGTHEN HEALTH MANPOWER RESOURCES AND RURAL SERVICES IS IN THE FINAL DESIGN PHASE. AID INITIATIVES

AIMED AT PROMOTING OTHER DONOR INVOLVEMENT IN A MULTI-DONOR PROJECT HAVE MET WITH CONSIDERABLE HOST GOVERNMENT ENTHUSIASM AND PROSPECTS FOR INVOLVING TWO MAJOR HEALTH SECTOR DONORS (ODM, WHO) ARE ENCOURAGING. THE PROJECT BUILDS ON ACTIVITIES THESE DONORS ARE ALREADY SUPPORTING. AID IS EXPERIMENTING WITH A SECOND MEANS OF FOASTERING COOPERATION AMONG DONORS IN CONNECTION WITH THIS SAME PROJECT, VIZ EFFORTS TO ARRANGE FOR WHO PARTICIPATION IN A PROFESSIONAL TEAM TO BE FIELDDED SHORTLY IN CONJUNCTION WITH ADVANCED PROJECT DESIGN WORK.

A THIRD, LONGER RANGE, MEANS OF PROMOTING COORDINATION AMONG DONORS IS TO INCLUDE IN HEALTH SECTOR PROJECTS ELEMENTS DIRECTED TOWARD BUILDING THE HEALTH PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT CAPABILITIES OF HEALTH MINISTRIES. AID HEALTH SECTOR PROJECTS NOW BEING DESIGNED IN LESOTHO AND SWAZILAND BOTH FOCUS STRONGLY ON THIS AREA OF NEED.

WHERE AID DOES NOT HAVE FULL SCALE PROJECT ASSISTANCE IN MCH/FP, PARTICIPANT TRAINING AND FP AND CLINICAL COMMODITIES HAVE BEEN EFFECTIVELY PROVIDED THROUGH AID AND THE U.S. EMBASSY. IN SWAZILAND, THIS ASSISTANCE HAS SUPPORTED THE WHO FAMILY PLAN- NING PROJECT AND AID PERIODICALLY DISCUSSES REQUIREMENTS FOR AND DISPOSITION OF SUCH SUPPORTIVE IMPUTS WITH THE WHO CHIEF OF PARTY. CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 05 MASERU 00248 02 OF 02 110804Z

FINALLY PERIODIC REGIONAL CONFERENCES INVOLVING DONORS AND LDC GOVERNMENTS ENTERING ON SHARED PROBLEMS, CONDITIONS, PROGRAM CONCERNS OR OTHER POINTS OF MUTUAL INTEREST COULD BE VALUABLE, ESPECIALLY WHERE IN-COUNTRY COORDINATION IS INADEQUATE. ADEQUATE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AMONG PERSONNEL HAS BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN FP PROGRAM PLANNING AND COORDINATION AND SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED.

AS TO AREAS IN WHICH FOREIGN DONORS CAN EXERT GREATEST IMPACT IN SUPPORT OF POPULATION PROGRAMS, IT MUST BE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT MANY FUNCTIONS ARE PROBABLY BEST PERFORMED BY HOST GOVERNMENTS (VILLAGE EDUCATIONAL AND PROMOTIONAL CAMPAIGNS, DAY-TO-DAY OPERA- TION OF RURAL CLINICS, TRAINING OF "GRASS ROOTS" VILLAGE HEALTH AUXILIARIES). DONORS CAN MAKE VALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE FIELDS OF PLANNING; PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION AND ADMINISTRATION, SURVEY TECHNIQUES, INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND DATA USE, TRAINING OF MIDDLE AND UPPER-LEVEL HEALTH MANPOWER (INCLUDING CURRICULUM AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT); SYSTEMS ANALYSIS; PROJECT AND PROGRAM EVALUATION; AND CAPITAL ASSISTANCE FOR MAINTENANCE AND EXPANSION OF PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE. HAUGHT

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 15 SEP 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FAMILY PLANNING, POPULATION GROWTH RATE, STUDIES, COUNTRY INFORMATION PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MASERU00248
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D760092-0052
From: MASERU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t197603116/baaaestb.tel
Line Count: 374
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 7
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUN 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <15 OCT 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IMPLICATIONS OF WORLDWIDE POPULATION GORWTH FOR UNITED
TAGS: SPOP, LT, WZ
To: STATE INFO MBABANE
GABORONE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006